

## **Biography:**

**Toby Stone, General Manager, Marine Division (MED), The Australian Maritime Safety Authority**



MED has three main teams; dealing with Marine Pollution, Salvage & Intervention and Marine Environment Standards. This includes the management of the National Plan, the National Maritime Emergency Response Arrangements (NMERA) and associated policy and training requirements.

In addition MED is responsible for the monitoring and development of environmental policies and standards with regards to shipping and international requirements linked to the IMO Marine Environment Protection Committee.

Toby Stone has also been appointed as the Maritime Emergency Response Commander (MERCOT).

MERCOT is the national decision maker responsible for the management of responses to maritime casualties with intervention powers to take such measures as may be necessary to prevent, mitigate or eliminate a risk of significant pollution, incurring the power to direct a port to release a tug to provide emergency assistance to a vessel at risk, or designate a place of refuge for a ship in emergency situations that present a risk of significant pollution.



Toby Stone previously worked in the United Kingdom as Head of Counter Pollution and Salvage for the Maritime and Coastguard Agency. Prior to this he spent 12 years at sea as a Deck Officer with BP Shipping serving on a variety of tonnage. He then joined the UK Coastguard Agency.

He has been involved in and attended the majority of maritime shipping casualties in the UK pollution zone since 1997, including the *Sea Empress*, *Ever Decent* and *MSC Napoli*. In addition, he attended the *Erika* and *Prestige* disasters in France and Spain. He also attended the Rena container ship incident advising the New Zealand Government.

